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I 155**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Casas-Bejar et al Docket: P7109
Serial No.: 09/063,227 Group Art: 3762
Filed: April 20, 1998 Examiner: Gring
Title: MEDICAL ELECTRICAL LEADS AND INDWELLING CATHETERS
WITH ENHANCED BIOCOMPATIBILITY AND BIOSTABILITY

Honorable Commissioner
For Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants wish to cite U.S. Patent No. 4,711,251 as potentially relevant to the patentability of the present invention. This patent application deals with a cardiac pacing lead adapted to deliver a drug intended to counter thrombus formation, fibrosis, inflammation, arrhythmias and the like adjacent the stimulation electrode. The Examiner's attention is particularly directed toward the abstract in which it indicates that the drug may be retained "as a coating on a large surface area portion of the lead" and to the text of column 3, lines 29 through 38 and column 4, lines 20 through 26, wherein it discloses that a drug of the types discussed might be compounded with a suitable silicone and that the composite material might be placed within the central bore electrode or might be employed to form the sheath 12 of the lead. This reference is not believed to be a bar to patentability of claims of the present application as amended, as it does not disclose provision of an overcoating comprising a non-porous polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated.

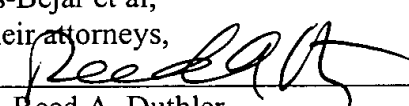
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Respectfully submitted,
Casas-Bejar et al,
By their attorneys,


Atty: Reed A. Duthler
Reg. No. 30,626
MEDTRONIC, INC.
7000 Central Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55432
(612) 514-3351